

Incident Report : 02/2015

Name and Type of Ship : *Capetan Giorgis*/bulk carrier
MSC Vancouver/container ship

Date/Time of Incident : 21 March 2015 at 0100 hrs (local time)
21 March 2015 at 0545 hrs (local time)

Location of incident : 01° 13.64' N, 103° 58.3' E
01° 6.0' N, 103° 34.0' E

Area Description : 3.8 nm off Tanjung Sengkuang, Batam, Indonesia
9 nm northeast off Pulau Karimun Besar, Indonesia

Detail of Incidents

1. Two incidents of robbery were reported onboard a bulk carrier and a container ship on 21 March 2015 at 0100 hrs and 0545 hrs (local time) respectively in the eastbound lane of the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), as described below:

a. On 21 March 2015 at or about 0100 hrs (local time), four men were onboard Marshall Island-registered bulk carrier, *Capetan Giorgis* while underway at approximately 3.8 nm off Tanjung Sengkuang, Batam. Nothing was missing onboard and the crew was safe.

b. On the same day at or about 0545 hrs (local time), a Luxembourg-registered container ship, *MSC Vancouver* while underway at approximately 9 nm northeast off Pulau Karimun Besar when seven perpetrators armed with knives and tools boarded the container ship. Latest update revealed no further sighting of perpetrators and no further assistance required. The perpetrators had robbed the 2nd engineer's gold chain and watch.

2. The master of the two vessels reported the incidents to Singapore Vessel Traffic Information System (VTIS) who notified the Singapore Police Coast Guard, Republic of Singapore Navy and Indonesian authorities; and initiated navigational broadcasts to alert mariners about the incidents.

Reported by: ReCAAP Focal Point (Singapore)

Comments: From the close proximity of the two incidents, it is of high probability that the robbers will continue to pry in this area over the next few days. The ReCAAP ISC recommends vessels to take extra precautionary measures when operating in this area, especially in the hours of darkness, post extra all round lookouts and alert the authorities as soon as possible, even in attempted cases. The Centre also urges Law enforcement agencies to heighten their attention to this area.

